

Amendment and Response
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Remarks

The present Amendment and Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action mailed April 9, 2004. Claims 91-139 were pending. Claims 123, 130-132 were withdrawn from consideration. Claims 91-111 and 134-136 have been allowed. Claims 112-122, 124-129, 133, 137 and 138 were rejected. Claims 115-117, 125 and 139 were objected to.

The undersign attorney conducted a telephone interview with the Examiner to discuss the present amendment to claim 112. The Examiner agreed to discuss the amendment with her supervisor.

Claims 112, 113, 118-122, 124, 126-129, 133 and 137-138 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Grange et al in view of Lightbody. The contact members of Grange and Lightbody et al. are compressively engaged with the semiconductor, but are not mechanically attached. Once the external compressive force is removed, the electrical coupling is lost.

Claim 112 has been amended to recite that the contacts are "fixedly bonded to and electrically coupled with" the flexible circuit member. The term "fixedly bonded" refers to a permanent or semi-permanent mechanical attachment that does not rely on an external compressive force to maintain the electrical coupling with the terminals on the flexible circuit member. Applicant submits that no prima facie case of obviousness is set forth and the claim 112, and the claims that depend therefrom, distinguish over the cited references and are in condition for allowance.

Claim 114 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Grange et al and Lightbody, in view of McMillar. In light of the allowability of claim 112 discussed above, Applicants submit that claim 114 is allowable.

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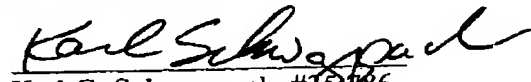
Conclusion

All pending claims are now in condition for allowance. A notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

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